thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.

(viii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, a scheme 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme' (TCIDS) has been launched.

Shrinking of Glaciers

†*340. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Ministry are aware of the fact that glaciers of many snow rivers are shrinking in the country:

(b) if so, the names of glaciers which are shrinking;

(c) whether Government propose to formulate any special scheme for conservation of originating sites of snow rivers under water conservation scheme of rivers including Ganga-Yamuna as well as conservation of catchment areas of tributaries of these rivers; and

(d) If not, the alternative steps proposed to be taken to raise water level in these rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the studies carried out by Geological Survey of India, a subordinate office under administrative control of Ministry of Mines, the majority of glaciers of Himalayan region are passing through, a phase of recession. Recession and advancement of Glaciers is a natural cyclic process.

(b) Though most of the Himalayan Glaciers are shrinking the names of the few important ones are Gangotri, Bhagirathi Karak, Dunagiri, Pindar, Milam and Bandar Punch in Uttaranchal; Gara, Shaune Garang, Chota Shigri, Bara Shigri, Sonapani, Miyar and Hamtah in Himachal Pradesh; Machoi and Likir in Jammu and Kashmir and Changme Khangpu in Sikkim.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Water Resources has no proposal under their consideration to formulate any special scheme for conservation of orginating sites of snow rivers and no specific alternate steps are proposed to be taken to raise water level in these rivers.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.